

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-2313

Joseph Cox Tavern

12245 Greenspring Avenue

Lutherville-Timonium, Baltimore County

1850 ca.

Private

The dwelling at the current intersection of Dover Road and Greenspring Avenue was most likely constructed circa 1850 as the Joseph Cox Tavern. Architectural and historical analysis based on an interior survey and deed research would aid in determining the building's date of construction and historic use. The tavern operated by Joseph Cox was sited in this area that straddles the Fourth and Eighth districts. The 1877 county atlas indicates that very little subdivision and development of the farmland had taken place over the prior twenty-seven years. Although prior documentation of the property suggests that the extant resource was likely the H.K. Frank House constructed circa 1875 and depicted in the 1877 atlas, further analysis indicates otherwise. The position of Dover Road at its terminus at Greenspring Avenue does not appear to have changed since 1877. An understanding of the road's placement within the built environment confirms that the extant building is most likely the tavern or shop depicted in the 1877 atlas. Whether or not it is the tavern of the 1850 atlas is presently unverified. This possibility is likely, however, for the log building probably pre-dates 1850 and no other buildings are sited in its immediate vicinity in the mid-19th century map. The tavern and shop continue to be shown in the 1915 county atlas. The building's use was altered to a single-family residence in the early to mid-1900s.

The main block of the building is built on a random rubble stone foundation which supports a wood frame structure clad with asbestos shingles. Standing two-and-a-half stories tall and four bays wide, the dwelling has a side gable roof with asphalt shingles and two interior end, brick chimneys with corbeled caps. The roof features a center gable pierced with a round-arched 2/2 window that has a molded wood surround and a square-edged sill. Piercing the second floor are four 1/1 windows with aluminum surrounds and sills. The two 1/1 windows on the first floor have molded wood surrounds and sills. Two single-leaf wood doors that are paneled with lights mark the two separate entries on the façade. Protecting the first story is a shed roof porch that spans four bays wide with wood Tuscan columns. A two-and-a-half story ell projects three bays deep from the northeast elevation. The ell features a two-story gallery porch on the southeast elevation and a central interior chimney that has been rebuilt. The ell connects to a log outbuilding that was might have served as an earlier dwelling or been used as a kitchen. The log portion, which might date as early as circa 1850, has a random rubble stone foundation, steeple-notch log construction, exposed daubing and an exterior gable end random rubble stone chimney.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2313

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Joseph Cox Tavern (preferred)
other Smith House

2. Location

street and number 12245 Greenspring Avenue not for publication
city, town Lutherville-Timonium vicinity
county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Vance D. Kopp, Jr. and Joanne S. Henderson
street and number 11636 Greenspring Avenue telephone Not Available
city, town Lutherville-Timonium state MD zip code 21093

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 9533 folio 84
city, town Towson tax map 50 tax parcel 363 tax ID number 1800013673

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2313

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed between 1860 and 1900, the main block of this vernacular dwelling fronts southwest at the corner of Greenspring Avenue and Dover Road. While the main dwelling itself probably dates closer to the 1900 circa date, the log outbuildings suggest that remnants of an older house may still exists on the interior. Exact dates would require an intensive-level survey and deed research. The main block of the building is built on a random rubble stone foundation which supports a wood frame structure clad with asbestos shingles. Standing two-and-a-half stories tall and four bays wide, the dwelling has a side gable roof with asphalt shingles and two interior end, brick chimneys with corbeled caps. The roof features a center gable pierced with a round-arched 2/2 window that has a molded wood surround and a square-edged sill. Piercing the second floor are four 1/1 windows with aluminum surrounds and sills. The two 1/1 windows on the first floor have molded wood surrounds and sills. Two single-leaf wood doors that are paneled with lights mark the two separate entries on the façade. Protecting the first story is a shed roof porch that spans four bays wide with wood Tuscan columns. A two-and-a-half story ell projects three bays deep from the northeast elevation. The ell features a two-story gallery porch on the southeast elevation and a central interior chimney that has been rebuilt. The ell connects to a log outbuilding that was might have served as an earlier dwelling or been used as a kitchen. The log portion, which might date as early as circa 1850, has a random rubble stone foundation, steeple-notch log construction, exposed daubing and an exterior gable end random rubble stone chimney.

Other outbuildings include a circa 1850 log smokehouse that stands one-story, one-bay square on a random rubble stone foundation. The log construction consists of steeple notching, wood chinking, and plaster daubing. The front portion of the building, containing a single-leaf vertical board door, has been clad with wood vertical board siding but is protected by the continuous front gable roof with asphalt shingles. On the rear is a shed roof vertical board addition.

Located further to the southeast is a circa 1900 tractor shed. The wood post foundation supports a board-and-batten structure with a front gable roof of asphalt shingles. A vertical board addition projects to the side with an asphalt shingle shed roof. Each section contains a double-leaf door, one is board-and-batten while the other is vertical board.

Located to the south is a circa 1910 water pump. This hand-action pump stands about three-feet tall on a concrete base. The manufacture markings say Ashland, Oregon #2007.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2313

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1850 ca.-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1850 ca., 1860 ca.-1900 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The dwelling at the current intersection of Dover Road and Greenspring Avenue was most likely constructed circa 1850 as the Joseph Cox Tavern. Architectural and historical analysis based on an interior survey and deed research would aid in determining the building's date of construction and historic use. As late as 1850, the area around Dover Road and Greenspring Avenue was rural and largely undeveloped. The farms of Edward Worthington, H. Mallonee, Lewis Dehoff, and Tyson traversed the landscape along Greenspring Avenue. In addition, the tavern operated by Joseph Cox was sited in this area that straddles the Fourth and Eighth districts.¹ The 1877 county atlas indicates that very little subdivision and development of the farmland had taken place over the prior twenty-seven years.² Although prior documentation of the property suggests that the extant resource was likely the H.K. Frank House constructed circa 1875 and depicted in the 1877 atlas, further analysis indicates otherwise.³ The position of Dover Road at its terminus at Greenspring Avenue does not appear to have changed since 1877. An understanding of the road's placement within the built environment confirms that the extant building is most likely the tavern or shop depicted in the 1877 atlas. Whether or not it is the tavern of the 1850 atlas is presently unverified. This possibility is likely, however, for the log building probably pre-dates 1850 and no other buildings are sited in its immediate vicinity in the mid-19th century map. The tavern and shop continue to be shown in the 1915 county atlas.⁴ The building's use was altered to a single-family residence in the early to mid-1900s. The land surrounding the Joseph Cox Tavern has retained its rural character.

¹ J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

² *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G.M. Hopkins, 1877).

³ Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

⁴ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G.W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2313

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County*. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men*. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 8 Acres
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Cockeysville Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1850, the Joseph Cox Tavern has been associated with the eight acres of land known as tax parcel 363 of map 50 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 29, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

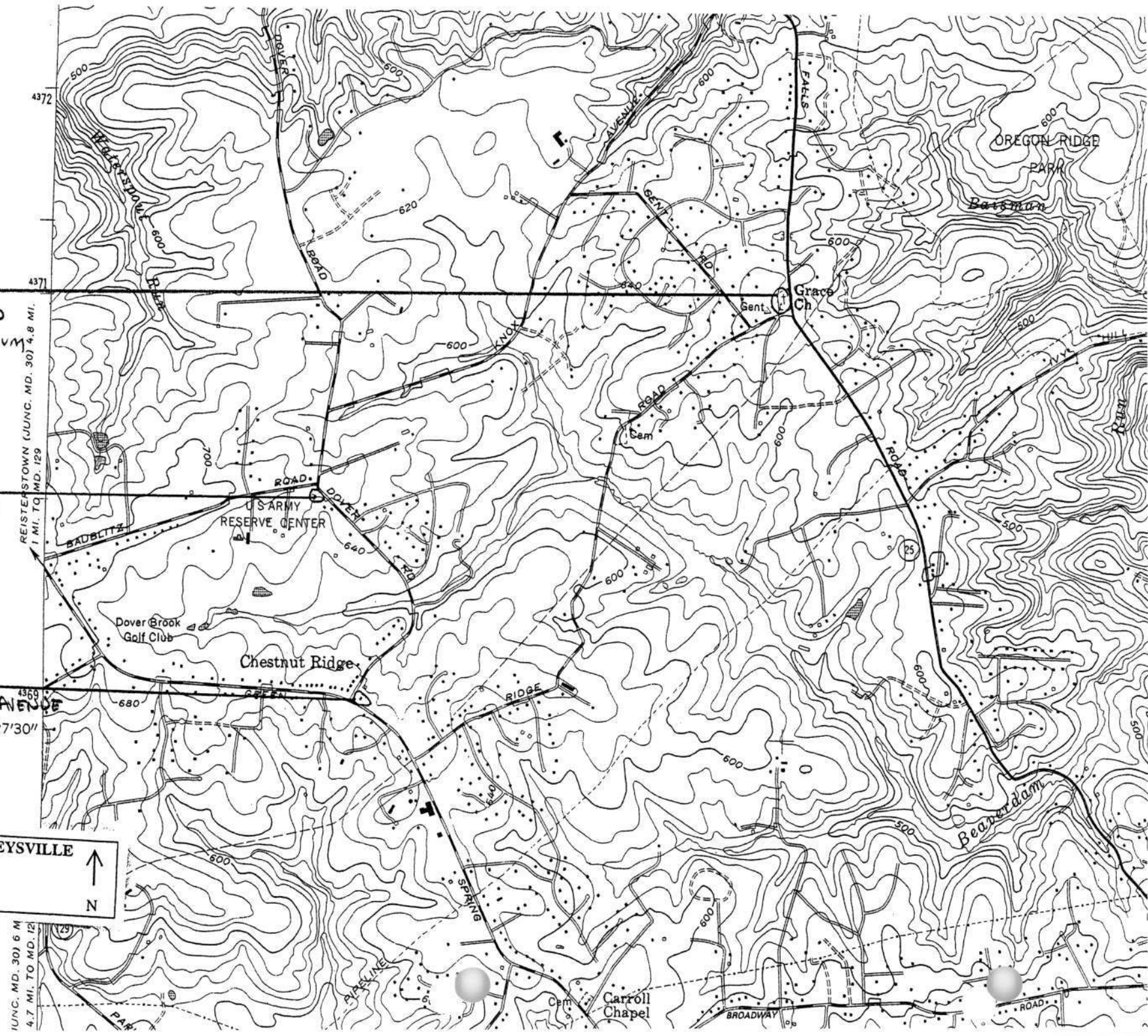
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

BA-2315
1804 RIDGE ROAD
LUTHERVILLE-TIMONIUM
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2314
12516 DOVER ROAD
REISTERSTOWN
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2313
12245 GREENSPRING AVENUE
LUTHERVILLE-TIMONIUM
BALTIMORE COUNTY

USGS Quad: COCKEYSVILLE
Scale: 1:24,000
N





BA-2313

12245 GREENSPRING AVENUE

LUTHERVILLE - TIMONUM

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILER LIVES

3/2001

MD-STRO

W CORNER

1 of 5



BA-2313

12245 GREENSPRING AVENUE

LUTHERVILLE - TIMONUM

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILLES

3/2001

MD- SRD

NE ELEVATION

2 of 5



BA-2313

12245 GREENSPRING AVENUE

LUTHERVILLE - TIMONIUM

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILRIES

3/2001

MD-SHPD

SE ELEVATION

3 of 5



BA-2313

12245 GREENSPRING AVENUE

LUTHERVILLE-TIMONIUM

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

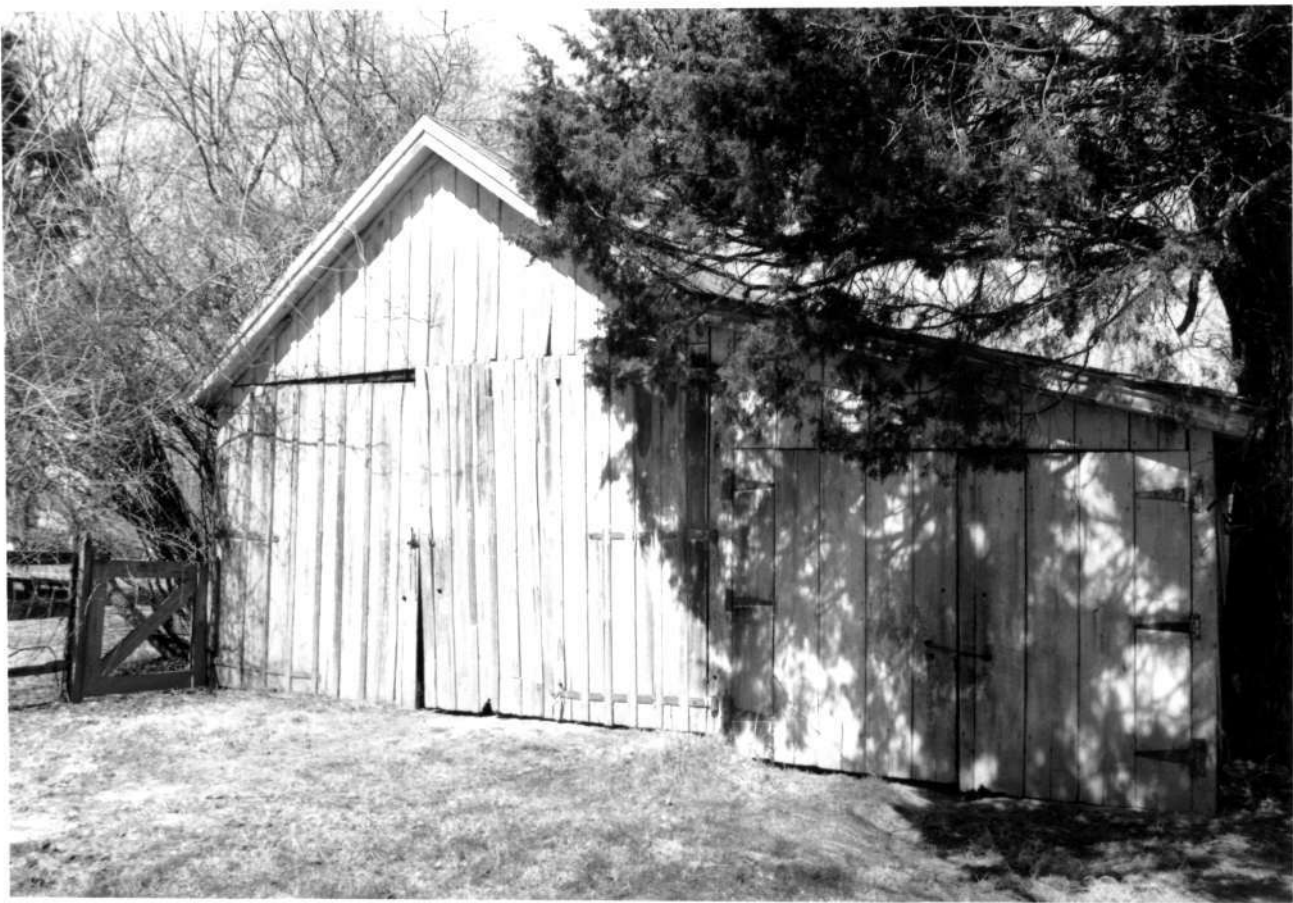
TRAILERIES

3/2001

MD-STRD

PUMP

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BA-2313

12245 GREENSPRING AVENUE

LUTHERVILLE -TIMONUM

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILER

3/2001

MD-SHPD

TRACTOR SHED

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BA- 2313

SMITH HOUSE - c. 1875 - 12245 Greenspring Avenue at Dover Road. Plain rural house with its gable end facing the road. No porch or portico. It is apparently the H. K. Frank house of the 1877 atlas.